

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A dispensing apparatus comprising:
a breach system ~~comprising:~~
~~contoured spike;~~
a dilution system; and
a distribution system;
the breach system being configured to open a container and release composition from the container and into the dilution system;
the breach system comprising rinsing system and hollow contoured spike;
the rinsing system being configured to contact the container and
composition remaining in the container with a fluid and remove additional
composition from the container;
the hollow contoured spike:
comprising beveled surfaces, spike leg, and a plurality of points,
the points being asymmetrically arranged on the hollow contoured spike;
being configured to break and push aside seal from container
opening; and
defining a cavity;
the cavity being configured to allow composition to pass
through the hollow contoured spike and to house at least a portion
of the rinsing system;
the dilution system being configured to receive the composition and to mix the composition with the liquid;
the distribution system being configured to transport the mixture of composition and liquid from the apparatus.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, the breach system further comprising:
piercing system configured to break and push aside seal from container opening;
rinsing system configured to contact the container and composition remaining in the container with a fluid and remove additional composition from the container;
docking system configured to receive and dock the container of the composition; and
container sensor configured to indicate that the container is positioned for receiving fluid from the rinsing system.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, the rinsing system being configured to rinse composition from the container and into the dilution system in less than about 10 minutes.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, the rinsing system being configured to rinse composition from the container and into the dilution system employing less than about 9 times the volume of the container of liquid.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The system of claim 2, the docking system comprising shape complementary the container and configured to allow the container to enter the docking system to a distance effective to open the container, push aside the container seal, and position rinsing system for effective rinsing of the container.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, the breach system being located over the dilution system.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, the dilution system comprising:
tank configured to receive composition and rinse from the container and breach system and comprising volume sufficient to contain the composition and rinse;
mixing system configured to combine the composition and rinse in the tank; and

diluent sensor configured to indicate when fluid in the tank reaches a predetermined level or volume.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, the mixing system comprising one or more jets.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the volume of fluid added is determined by the level of the fluid in the tank at the start of the addition cycle.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, the distribution system comprising:
fluid moving system,
one or more fluid conducting systems, each configured to provide fluid communication;
a fluid distributing system, and
controller;
the fluid moving system being configured to move fluid through the fluid conducting system and fluid distributing system at times and in amounts indicated by the controller;
the fluid distributing system being configured to direct fluid to the one or more fluid conducting systems at times and in amounts indicated by the controller.
the controller being configured to direct the fluid moving system and fluid distributing system.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, the fluid distributing system comprising manifold, the manifold being configured to direct fluid to one or more sites of use.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, the manifold comprising manifold control valve.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the fluid moving system, fluid distributing system, and controller cooperate to circulate fluid within dilution system.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of dispensing a heterogeneous cleaning composition comprising:

piercing and pushing aside a covering on an opening of a container with a hollow contoured spike and rinsing the container;

thereby transferring the contents of the container into a dilution system;
combining the contents with a fluid to produce an intermediate composition; and
dispensing the intermediate composition to a washing machine;

wherein the hollow contoured spike:

comprises beveled surfaces, spike leg, and a plurality of points, the points being
asymmetrically arranged on the hollow contoured spike;

is configured to break and push aside seal from container opening; and
defines a cavity;

the cavity being configured to allow composition to pass through the
hollow contoured spike and to house at least a portion of a rinsing system.

16. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow contoured spike is configured to break a seal, push the broken seal into the interior of the container, and maintain a portion of the seal attached to the container.

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow contoured spike is dimensioned to occupy half or more of cross sectional area of the container opening.

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow contoured spike comprises three points and three beveled surfaces;

the beveled surfaces being between the points and defining an entry to the cavity;

the points being configured to contact and break the container seal;

the beveled surfaces being configured to move the container seal into a position in which
it does not block the container opening.

19. (New) A dispensing apparatus comprising:
a breach system;

a dilution system;

a distribution system; and

a controlled valve system;

the breach system being configured to open a container and release composition from the container and into the dilution system;

the breach system comprising rinsing system and hollow contoured spike;

the rinsing system being configured to contact the container and composition remaining in the container with a fluid and remove additional composition from the container;

the hollow contoured spike:

comprising point, beveled surfaces, and spike leg;

being configured to break and push aside seal from container opening; and

defining a cavity;

the cavity being configured to allow composition to pass through the hollow contoured spike and to house at least a portion of the rinsing system;

the dilution system being configured to receive the composition and to mix the composition with the liquid;

the distribution system being configured to transport the mixture of composition and liquid from the apparatus;

the controlled valve system being configured to control the temperature of water entering the dispensing apparatus.